

They are amenable to working for the university, and that is what they do 12 months of the year. I just saw in the paper this morning, and the first comment by Coach Osborne on this subject may have occurred last night in the paper, that he doesn't want any cut in the spring training program. They need to have those players out there all of that time going through these arduous activities to produce a better team for the football...for the university because a winning team is a money-producing team. So they want to keep the spring training intact, and the spring game, I presume. Then they go into summer conditioning, then they go into fall training and the season, and that carries them through the winter and into the next year. With the permission of the NCAA to allow freshmen to play football for the varsity, a freshman football player will play in his first game, in some instances, before he sets foot in the classroom. So that term scholar athlete is...or athlete scholar is a misnomer. These individuals are judged only and solely in terms of their athletic ability and what they can produce in the arena because there is not too much concern about them being in the classroom. However, to make sure that they are in the arena, they have trainers, doctors and others to supervise their activities. So if they are injured, as Mike Rozier was, they can give them enough medication and therapy to allow them to continue playing, even on the injury, and they wind up as Mike Rozier did, with calcium deposits that he hasn't recovered from yet even though he's a professional football player now. So, since we are going to require so much from these young men, and football has assumed the proportions of a religion and we saw how the Legislature was willing to overcome or ignore arguments about elevating football over academics in approving of a project by the university to spend \$14 million plus for playtime activities, it should behoove us, as a Legislature, now to do something for the occupants of one of those facilities. The football practice field, to me, is like a stable, the occupants or inhabitants will be like the Clydesdales. And, since a surcharge is going to be put on the tickets to help fund those buildings, we ought to be willing to expend some money for the welfare of the young men who play the game and make all that money for the school. I have offered this idea in the past. In some areas they have what they call the rites, r-i-t-e-s, of spring, annual occurrences. This is my annual pitch for the rights of football players. When I first brought the idea it was laughed at, scoffed at and mocked. I received phone calls from reporters, television and radio people all over the country, but they were doing the whole thing as a gimmick or a humorous piece. Then when I began to give my